

Capsule Summary

SM-557

The James and Estelle Longmore House

Leonardtown

Private

c. 1918-20

In 1918, a circuit court case between the Eastern Shore Trust Company and Harvey E. Hackenburg vs. Frank D. Lawrence forced the sale of a series of properties that Asa A. Lawrence had once owned along Lawrence Avenue. Lawrence had purchased a series of properties on the west side of Leonardtown in order to facilitate the town's growth during the 1870s and 1880s. Unfortunately, Lawrence died in testate and a court case to settle his rather large estate ensued.

As a result of the case, one of several parcels were sold on the courthouse steps of Leonardtown to a number of interested buyers. One of them was James A. and Estelle Longmore. On May 17, 1918, the couple purchased a 1,238 sq. ft. lot and executed a deed with the trustees appointed by the circuit court L. Allison Wilmer and Joseph H. Ching. Soon after the purchase, the couple erected a two story, three bay, single pile dwelling with an L-shaped plan on the east side of Lawrence Avenue. James and Estelle owned the house until August 29, 1960 when their estate sold the dwelling to Charles J. O'Leary and Monica Tennison.

While the house has been considerably altered by a pair of modern additions and the stucco covering, it still retains its fenestration, building form, and original roofing materials. This makes it an important dwelling for understanding the development of domestic architecture in Leonardtown in the first quarter of the twentieth century.

SM-557, James and Estelle Longmore House
St. Mary's County
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization:	Western Shore
Chronological/Developmental Period:	Industrial Urban Dominance, 1870-1930
Historic Period Theme:	Architecture

Resource Type

Category:	Building
Historic Environment:	Town
Historic Function and Use:	Residence
Known Design Source:	None

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. SM-557

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic James and Estelle Longmore House

and/or common

2. Location

E side of Lawrence Avenue, just south of the intersection of Park and Lawrence Avenues

street & number

☐ not for publication

city, town Leonardtown

☐ vicinity of

congressional district 3

state Md

county St. Mary's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Frederick J. and Rayetta S. McWilliams

street & number PO Box 136

telephone no.: (301) 475-9388

city, town Leonardtown

state and zip code Md 20650

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse

liber 134

street & number

folio 479

city, town Leonardtown

state Md

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. SM-557

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 1

The Longmore house, located on the east side of Lawrence Avenue just north of the intersection of Fenwick Street and Lawrence Avenue, was constructed c. 1918. The dwelling is oriented on an east/west axis and is setback about ten yards from the roadway. The yard is shaded by a large yew and several other deciduous trees that are randomly situated on the flat lot.

The dwelling itself is a two story, three bay, center-passage, single pile, frame house covered with stucco and topped with a pressed metal shingle, gable roof. The original dwelling exhibits an L-shaped plan and features two one story additions made to the west and south elevations. The roof of the original section exhibits a cross gable and one interior end brick chimney. Another exterior end chimney extends from a one story addition on the south side and an interior chimney pierces the roof of the original section's rear two story ell.

The primary elevation has been obscured by a modern one story addition that covers the three bays on the first floor. The addition's walls are sheathed with aluminum siding and pierced by three six-over-six, double-hung sash windows and a modern door. The second floor is characterized by the symmetrical placement of three, six-over-six windows. Judging from this arrangement the first floor probably followed this pattern except the middle bay was probably an entrance.

8. Significance

Survey No. SM-557

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

In 1918, a circuit court case between the Eastern Shore Trust Company and Harvey E. Hackenburg vs. Frank D. Lawrence forced the sale of a series of properties that Asa A. Lawrence had once owned along Lawrence Avenue. Lawrence had purchased a series of properties on the west side of Leonardtown in order to facilitate the town's growth during the 1870s and 1880s. Unfortunately, Lawrence died in testate and a court case to settle his estate ensued.

As a result of the case, one of several parcels were sold on the courthouse steps of Leonardtown to a number of interested buyers. One of them was James A. and Estelle Longmore. On May 17, 1918, the couple purchased a 1,238 sq. ft. lot and executed a deed with the trustees appointed by the circuit court L. Allison Wilmer and Joseph H. Ching. Soon after the purchase, the couple erected a two story, three bay, single pile dwelling with an L-shaped plan on the east side of Lawrence Avenue. James and Estelle owned the house until August 29, 1960 when their estate sold the house to Charles J. O'Leary and Monica Tennison.

While the house has been considerably altered by a pair of modern additions and the stucco covering, it still retains its fenestration, building form, and original roofing materials. This makes it an important dwelling for understanding the development of residential development in Leonardtown in the first quarter of the twentieth century.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-557

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 11,200 sq ftQuadrangle name Leonardtown, MdQuadrangle scale 1:24 000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

Zone	Easting			Northing					

B

Zone	Easting			Northing					

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Same as per deed description.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyororganization St. Mary's County Planning and Zoningdate February, 1997street & number 22740 Washington Streettelephone (301) 475-4662city or town Leonardtownstate Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2020
514-7600

SM-557, James A. and Estelle Longmore House

St. Mary's County

8.1 Significance

Chain-of-title (Please note that all records can be found in the Land Records Office, St. Mary's County Courthouse in Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted.)

Reference: Liber MRF 134, Folio 479

Grantee: Frederick J. and Rayetta S. McWilliams

Grantor: Charles J. and Virginia D. O'Leary

Date: June 17, 1967

Notes: The deed refers to a Charles A. Heard survey dating from October 13, 1917. The tract contains 27.84 perches.

Reference: Liber CBG 105, Folio 18

Grantee: Charles J. O'Leary and Monica O. Tennison

Grantor: James Longmore, et ux

Date: August 29, 1960

Reference: Liber EBA 17, Folio 135

Grantee: James A. and Estelle Longmore

Grantor: L. Allison Wilmer and Joseph H. Ching

Date: May 17, 1918

Notes: As a result of a circuit court case (#NE 1275) involving the Eastern Shore Trust Company vs. Frank D. Lawrence, executor of Asa A. Lawrence's estate, the lot was sold at a public auction. James Longmore and his wife Estelle purchased 27.84 perches of Lawrence's property for \$1510.

Reference: Liber JFF 4, Folio 361

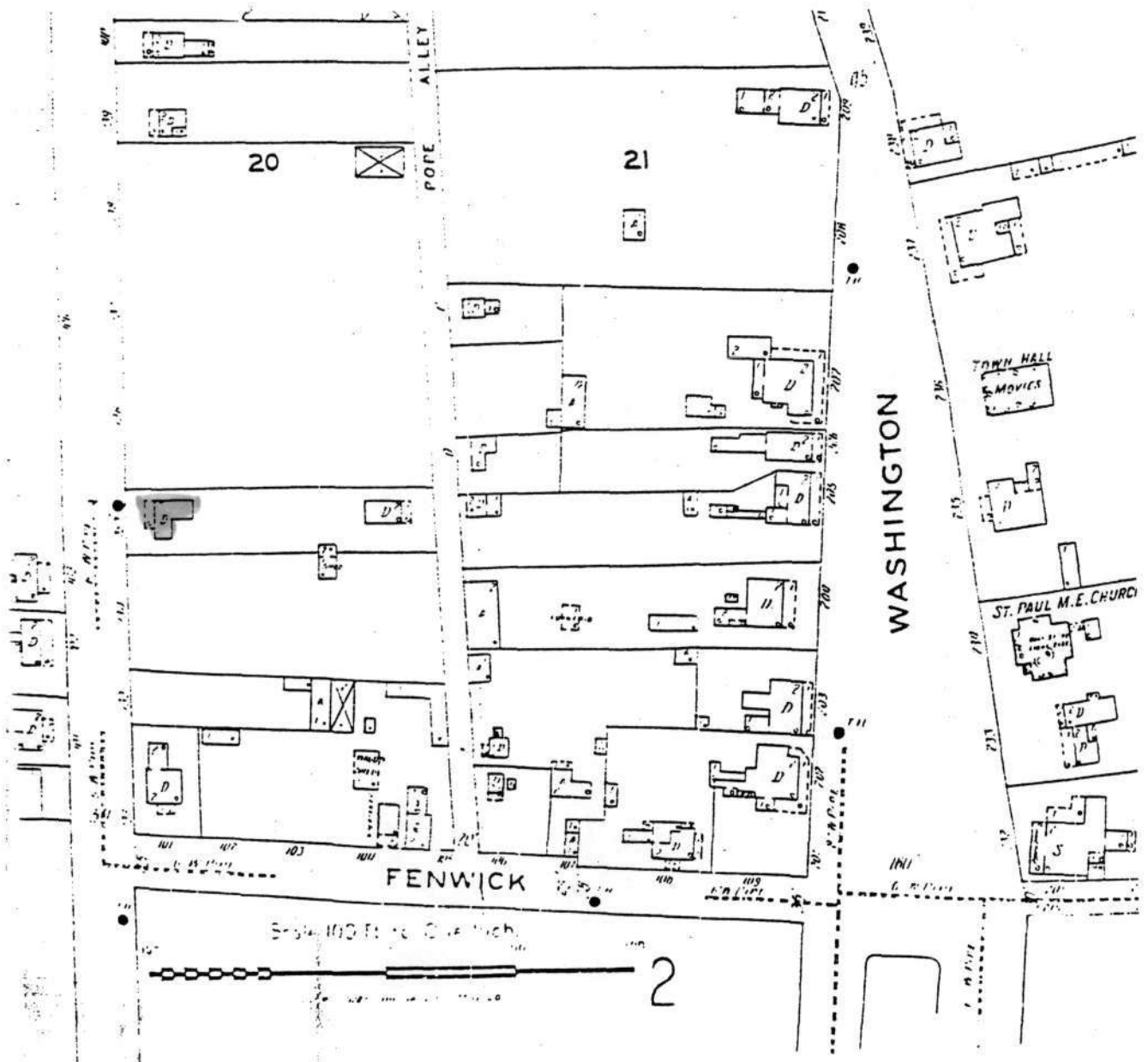
Grantee: Asa A. Lawrence

Grantor: Joseph H. Key and Robert C. Combs

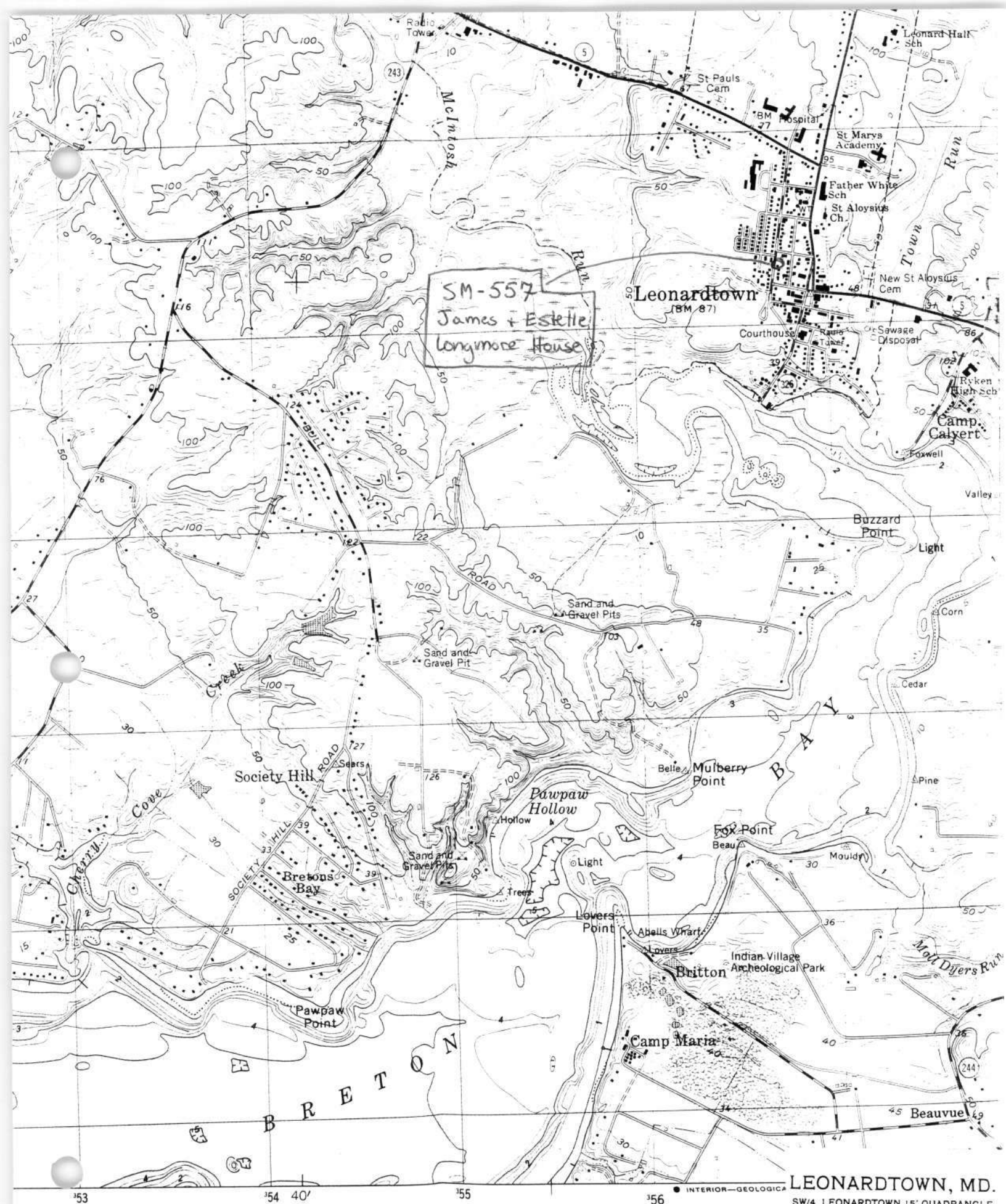
Date: December 22, 1880

Notes: Here Asa Lawrence purchases much of the property that is presently known as Lawrence Avenue. It represents a confirmatory deed for land he purchased previously from Maria Key but had never received legal title to.

SM-557, James A. and Estelle Longmore House
 St. Mary's County
 8.2 Significance

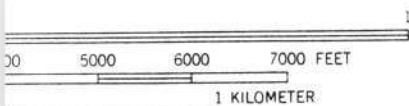


1928 Sanborn Fire Insurance map showing the James and Estelle Longmore House fronting on Lawrence Avenue.



SM-557
James + Estelle
Longmore House

LEONARDTOWN, MD.
SW/4 LEONARDTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE
38076-C6-TB-024



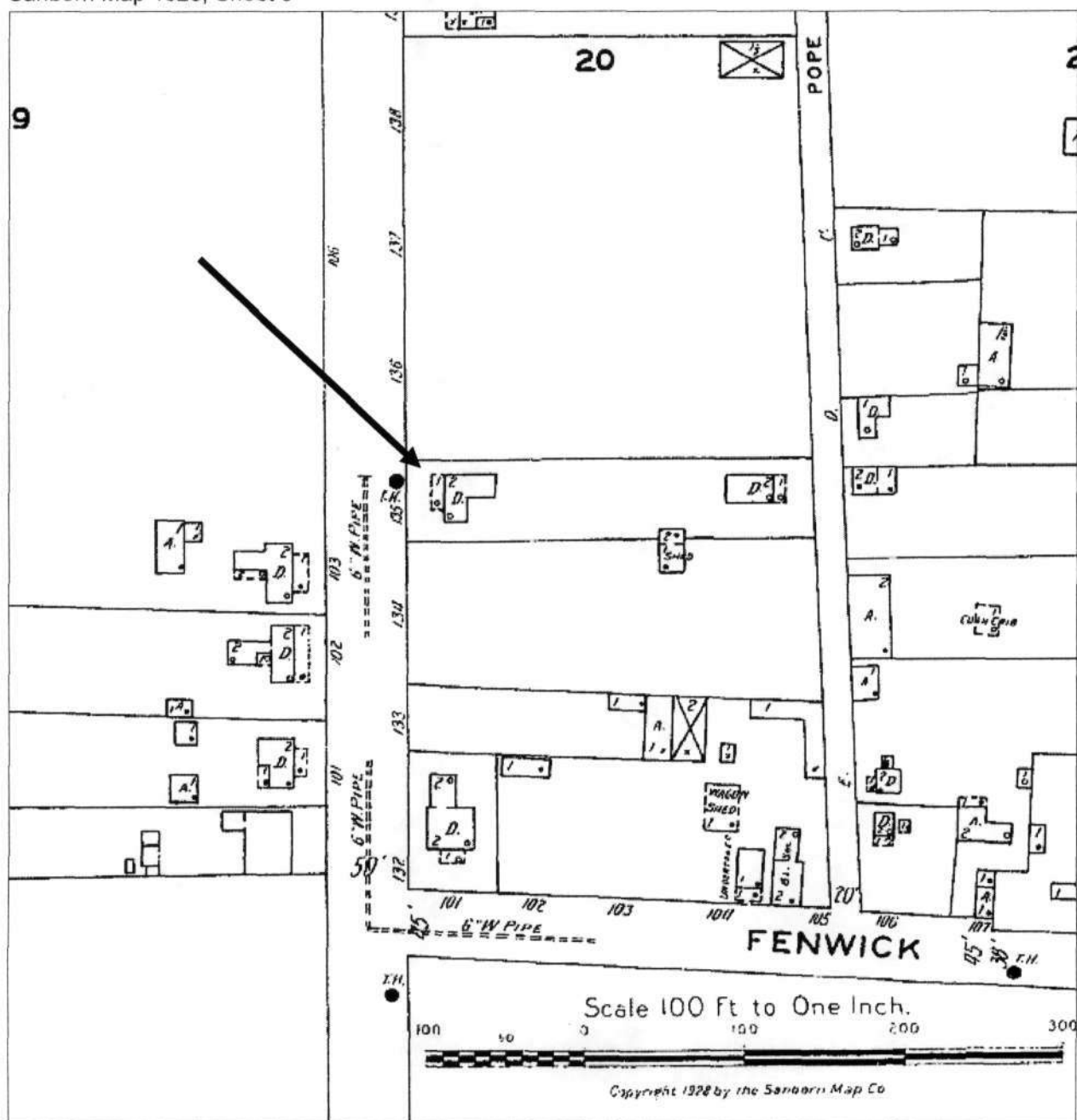
1963
1983
1984
1987

Heavy-duty
Medium-duty

ROAC

PHOTOREVISED 1984
DMA 5660 1 SW-SERIES 1987

James & Estelle Longmore House
22740 Lawrence Avenue, Leonardtown
Sanborn Map 1928, Sheet 3

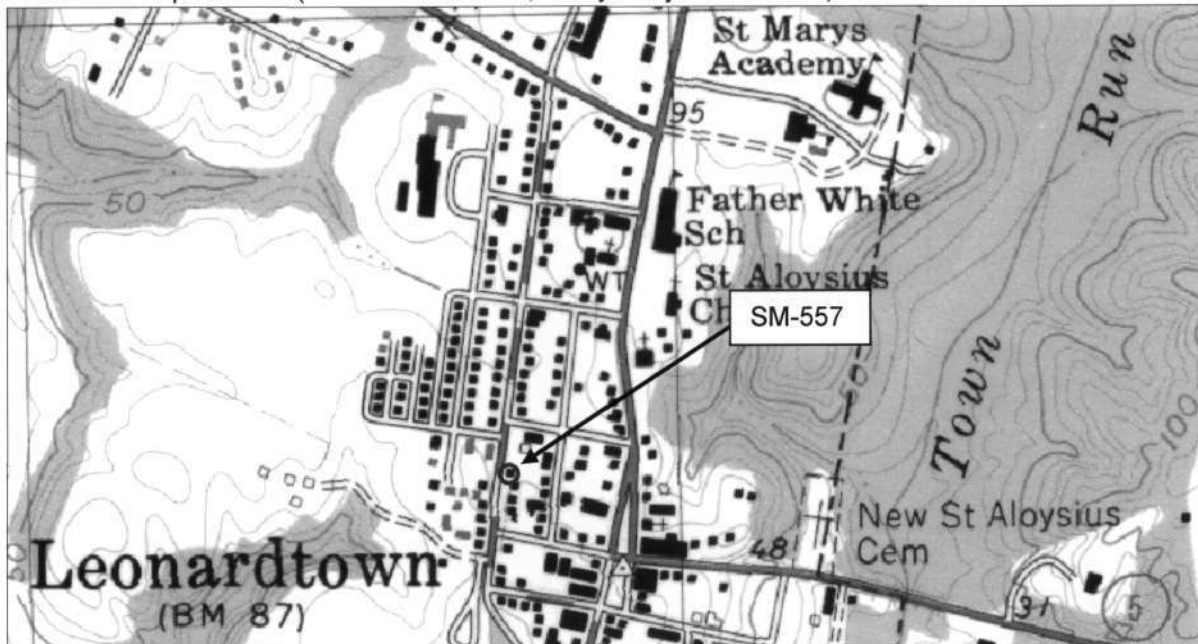


SM-557

James & Estelle Longmore House

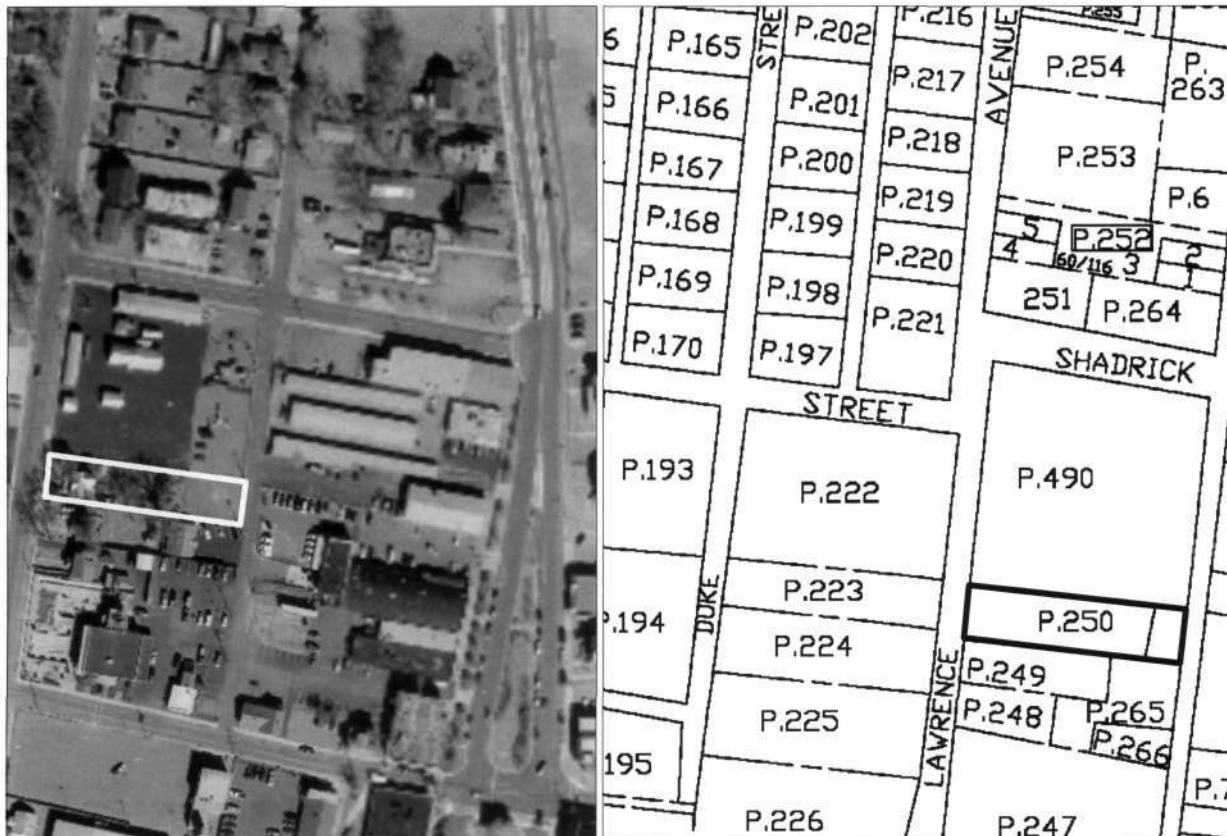
22740 Lawrence Avenue, Leonardtown

Leonardtown quad 1963 (Photorevised 1984, Bathymetry added 1982)



National Web Map Service 6" Orthophoto Map,
c. 2007-08

Tax Map 133, P. 250





SM-557

James + Estelle Longmore House

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranzetta

Dec 1996

Md SHPO

W + S elevations

1 of 1